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PCT/EP 03/13500

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C22B1/10 C22B5/14 F27B15/10

B01J8/18

B01J8/44

F27B15/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C22B B01J F27B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to daim No.
X	US 3 578 798 A (LAPPLE WALTER C ET AL) 18 May 1971 (1971-05-18) column 1, line 65 -column 2, line 75; figure 1	19-26
A	column 4, line 26 - line 28 column 4, line 40 - line 44; figure 3	1-4
X	US 2 607 666 A (MARTIN HOMER Z) 19 August 1952 (1952-08-19) figure 1	19-21
Υ	US 4 044 094 A (BARNER HERBERT E ET AL) 23 August 1977 (1977-08-23) figures 3-5,7	27,28
Υ	US 4 789 580 A (HIRSCH MARTIN ET AL) 6 December 1988 (1988-12-06) figure 1/	27,28
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date L document which may throw doubts on priority clalm(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date ctalmed	 "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 16 April 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 29/04/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Bombeke, M



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		PC1/EP 03/13500		
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A	DE 32 35 559 A (METALLGESELLSCHAFT AG) 24 May 1984 (1984-05-24) abstract; figure 1	1-4		
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